Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 21, as follows:

In conventional ~~applications a~~ applications, a common power source is used for all sensors in a current loop. In some applications, the common power source introduces an intolerable false-OK vulnerability. In other applications, the common power source merely introduces a false-NOK vulnerability with respect to the absence of power due to an unwanted power-loss, but couples all sensors together in a manner that introduces an intolerable false-OK vulnerability to ground voltage rises or transient spikes and other typical power anomalies. The false-OK scenario may occur due to a reduced effectiveness of sensor redundancy by making multiple sensors susceptible to simultaneous failures from a single cause.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 32, as follows:

~~FIG. 4.~~ FIG. 4 shows a block diagram of the sensor loop.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 3, as follows:

FIG. 1 shows a farm 10 of very large solar collectors 12 in a normal operational attitude in accordance with the teaching of one embodiment of the present invention. For the normal operational attitude (FIG. 1), solar collectors 12 desirably face the sun to maximize energy production, and track the sun as the sun moves across the sky. Some of solar collectors 12 may be located so close to others that if they were to fall they could

hit the other solar collectors 12. Other solar collectors 12 may be located some distance from any other solar collector 12 so that wind conditions may vary somewhat between the different locations. ~~Fig 1.~~ FIG. 1 depicts only three solar collectors 12, but any number of solar collectors 12 may be provided.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 25, as follows:

FIG. 3 shows a block diagram of a sensor unit 22 which serves as a modular component that is used at a plurality of locations in the sensor loop in accordance with the teaching of the present invention. ~~FIG. 4.~~ FIG. 4 shows a block diagram of a sensor loop 24 that uses sensor units 22 and may provide fail-safe control of solar collectors 12 (FIGs. 1-2) or other systems.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 18, as follows:

Primarily for troubleshooting purposes, a switch 41 is included in association with each sensor unit 22, but located outside of each associated sensor unit 22. Each switch 41 is coupled across loop contacts 38. For normal operation, switch 41 is maintained in an open configuration. However, for troubleshooting purposes switch 41 may be switched to a closed configuration to remove the associated sensor unit 22 from sensor loop 24 without otherwise influencing sensor loop 24. Through ~~switch 41 a~~ switch 41, a sensor unit 22 may be physically removed from closed circuit 40 without interrupting current flow therein. In the preferred embodiment, switch 41 is a manually operated switch.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 9, as follows:

The isolation provided by transformer 42 prevents unintended currents from flowing through the components of closed circuit 40 in response to ground voltage disturbances and other power anomalies that may plague the public AC power distribution network or the solar system itself. For example, lightning strikes may be a source of such voltage disturbances in the solar system itself. The use of the public AC power distribution network to energize power sources 26 poses no false-OK vulnerability and provides an inexpensive way to provide power in a distributed and isolated manner to a number of sensor units 22. Should a power outage occur, current could cease flowing in closed circuit 40, and ~~a unwanted~~ an unwanted but tolerable false-NOK failure may result.